

## Carol Coles

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**From:** Carol Coles  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 2:11 PM  
**To:** \*everyone; \_Council Members; Andy Rieger; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; Joy Hampton; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily; OU Nightly  
**Subject:** Norman Earns Tree City USA Status

City of Norman  
201 West Gray  
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Representatives of the City of Norman and the Norman Tree Board received special recognition for tree care at the state capitol in Oklahoma City this week. Norman has participated in the Tree City USA program for 10 years. Norman is among 23 cities, two Air Force bases and five public utilities that have been designated as a Tree City USA community or Tree Line USA utility in Oklahoma this year. In addition, six universities have attained Tree Campus USA status.

To earn Tree City USA status from the Arbor Day Foundation, a city must establish a tree board, create a tree ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita annually on a community forestry program and celebrate Arbor Day with an official proclamation and city-wide observance. The City of Norman planted and maintained and distributed educational material to receive Tree City recognition. Additionally, the city sponsored a free tree giveaway of over 1,000 trees with the Tree Bank Foundation and Apache Foundation.

The Forestry Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry coordinates the Tree City USA, Tree Line USA and Tree Campus USA programs in Oklahoma. It co-sponsors the annual celebration at the state capitol with assistance from The Oklahoma Urban and Community Forestry Council, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to public education about the benefits of trees.